

The Sixty-eighth Season of The William Nelson Cromwell and F. Lammot Belin Concerts

National Gallery of Art 2,783rd Concert

Virginia Virtuosi

Nancy Jin, violin Tiffany Richardson, viola Mark Bergman, double bass with

Annette Chang-Barger, *violin*Danielle Cho, *cello*, and Sophia Kim-Cook, *piano*

Presented in honor of From Impressionism to Modernism:

The Chester Dale Collection

April 18, 2010 Sunday Evening, 6:30 pm West Building, West Garden Court

Admission free

Program

Louis Moreau Gottschalk (1829–1869) The Banjo

George Gershwin (1898–1937) Lullaby

Maurice Ravel (1875-1937)

Mother Goose Suite

- 1. Pavane de Belle au bois dormant
- 2. Petit Poucet
- 3. Laideronnette, Impèratrice des Pagodes
- 4. Les Entretiens de la Belle at la Bête
- 5. Le Jardin fèerique

INTERMISSION

Walter Piston (1894-1976)

Three Counterpoints

- 1. Espressivo con moto
- 2. Adagio sereno
- 3. Allego spiccato

Darius Milhaud (1892-1974)

Concert suite from The Creation of the World

- 1. Prelude
- 2. Fugue
- 3. Romance
- 4. Scherzo
- 5. Final

The Musicians

VIRGINIA VIRTUOSI

Winner of the first annual Alumni Ventures award from Yale University in 2008, the string trio Virginia Virtuosi performs chamber music in innovative ways that listeners have described as "turning classical music cool" (*The Fairfax Connection*). In addition to performances at the Corcoran Gallery of Art and the Kennedy Center, Virginia Virtuosi partners with the Arlington Public Schools and the Virginia Commission for the Arts to provide interactive musical programs for youth and adults in Virginia, Maryland, and Washington, DC.

NANCY JIN

Violinist Nancy Jin enjoys an active career as an orchestral player, chamber musician, and teacher in the metropolitan DC area. A native of Fairfax, Virginia, Jin currently plays in the Amadeus Orchestra, the Fairfax Symphony, the National Philharmonic Orchestra, and the Virginia Chamber Orchestra. In previous years she has played in the National Symphony Orchestra and the Richmond Symphony Orchestra. She is a former member of the Hartford Symphony Orchestra. In 2009 Jin was a soloist with the Winchester Orchestra of Virginia, performing two movements from *The Four Seasons* by Vivaldi. Jin is a founding member of Virginia Virtuosi and a member of the Sage Chamber Players. A dedicated pedagogue, she is a certified Suzuki teacher with a thriving studio of violin students in Ashburn, Virginia. A recipient of undergraduate and graduate degrees from The Cleveland Institute of Music and the Yale University School of Music, Jin has studied under Syoko Aki, Linda Cerone, and Vernon Summers and coached with members of the Tokyo and Miami String Quartets.

TIFFANY RICHARDSON

An avid chamber musician and founding member of Virginia Virtuosi, violist Tiffany Richardson holds degrees from the University of Maryland School of Music at College Park and the New England Conservatory of Music

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in Boston. As an orchestral musician, she has performed with the New World Symphony, the Saint Louis Symphony, and the Richmond Symphony, and has participated in the Aspen Music Festival, Festival Mozaic, and Spoleto Festival USA. Her most recent engagements include the Left Bank Chamber Society and the Washington National Opera at the Kennedy Center. A strong supporter of contemporary music, Richardson performed the United States premiere of Arvo Pärt's L'Abbe Agathon at the Aspen Music Festival, and she can be heard on several world premiere recordings as a member of the Boston Modern Orchestra Project. She has studied with Ralph Fielding, Daniel Foster, Carol Rodland, and Michael Tree. A devoted teacher, Richardson enjoys teaching and coaching students from local youth orchestras and high schools.

MARK BERGMAN

Double bassist, educator, and composer Mark Bergman currently serves on the faculty of George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. He is a founding member of the Virginia Virtuosi, solo bassist with the Assisi Music Festival in Italy, and a member of the Peter Britt Festival Orchestra (Jacksonville, Oregon). Bergman formerly served as the principal double bassist with the New Haven Symphony Orchestra and the Mato Grosso Chamber Orchestra in Cuiaba, Brazil, and was a member of the Hartford Symphony Orchestra's double bass section. A graduate of the Yale School of Music, Bergman is completing a doctoral degree in the scholarship of teaching and learning. An author as well as a performer, he is an educational developer for Oxford University Press and has written a book about American popular music that is scheduled for publication in this fall by Cognella Academic Publishers. Bergman's compositions have been performed in North America, South America, and Europe by Assisi Performing Arts, the Connecticut Chamber Players, the Mato Grosso Chamber Orchestra, the Philharmonic Orchestra of the Americas, the Roanoke Symphony Orchestra, and other ensembles. He was a winner of composition contests sponsored by the British International Bass Forum and Kappa Gamma Psi and was featured twice on the blog Bowed Radio.

ANNETTE CHANG-BARGER

Violinist Annette Chang-Barger holds a bachelor's degree from Brown University and graduate degrees from Yale University and the New England Conservatory of Music. She has been a member of the symphony orchestras of Hartford and New Haven, as well as the New World Symphony Orchestra and the Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra. She has attended the Tanglewood Music Center and has participated in numerous music festivals, including the Kneisel Hall Chamber Music Festival, the Norfolk Music Festival, and the Pacific Music Festival. She resides in Springfield, Virginia, with her two sons, Noah and Lewis.

DANIELLE CHO

A native of Los Angeles, Danielle Cho has performed throughout Asia, Europe, and the United States. Awarded a Fulbright Scholarship, she studied with cellist Lluis Claret, who is the godson of Pablo Casals, in Barcelona, Spain. In 2008–2009 she was a member of the Palau de Les Arts Orchestra in Valencia, Spain, under the direction of Lorin Maazel and Zubin Mehta. A dedicated contemporary music advocate, she has performed new music at the Lucerne Festival Academy, where she worked with Pierre Boulez and the Ensemble Intercontemporain; Santa Fe New Music; and the Spoleto USA Festival "Music in Time" series. Additional festival appearances include the Holland Music Sessions; the International Musicians' Seminar at Prussia Cove in Cornwall, England; and the music festivals of Charleston, South Carolina (Spoleto USA), Sarasota, Florida, and Taos, New Mexico, as well as the Schleswig-Holstein Festival in Germany. An avid chamber musician, Cho has worked with members of the Takács, Guarneri, Juilliard, and Brentano String Quartets and played in the New York String Seminar at Carnegie Hall. She holds degrees from the University of Southern California and the New England Conservatory of Music.

SOPHIA KIM-COOK

Born in Montréal, Québec, pianist Sophia Kim-Cook began her music studies at age six at Montréal's École de musique Vincent d'Indy and quickly defined her talent, winning the Canadian Music Competition just one year later. She continued to pursue piano studies at the Conservatoire de musique de Québec, and McGill University. Kim-Cook has won competitions as a soloist (the McGill Symphony Orchestra Competition) and as an accompanist (the Eckhardt-Gramatté Competition). Having relocated to the United States with her husband, she is now active in this country, serving as a collaborative pianist for the Eastern Trombone Workshop, the Mid-Atlantic Flute Competition, the National Gallery of Art Orchestra, and the Washington Concert Opera, and performing with members of the National Symphony Orchestra and the United States Army Band. Kim-Cook also teaches classes in early childhood music at the Levine School of Music.

Program Notes

Chester Dale (1883-1962) was an astute businessman who made his fortune on Wall Street in the bond market. He thrived on forging deals and translated much of this energy and talent into collecting art. His magnificent collection, which he bequeathed to the National Gallery of Art, is a monument of French painting from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. It is the subject of an exhibition currently on view at the Gallery that includes such masterpieces as Jean-Baptiste-Camille Corot's Forest of Fontainebleau (1834), Auguste Renoir's A Girl with a Watering Can (1876), Mary Cassatt's Boating Party (1893/1894), Edouard Manet's Old Musician (1862), Pablo Picasso's Family of Saltimbanques (1905), and George Bellows' Blue Morning (1909). Other artists represented include Paul Cézanne, Edgar Degas, Vincent van Gogh, Henri Matisse, Amedeo Modigliani, and Claude Monet. Portraits of Dale by Salvador Dalí and Diego Rivera are included in the show, along with portraits of Dale's wife Maud (who was an artist in her own right and greatly influenced her husband's interest in art) painted by George Bellows and Fernand Léger.

In honor of the exhibition, the members of Virginia Virtuosi have selected works by composers whose impact on the development of music can be compared with the impact on the world of art of the painters represented in the exhibition. Corot, Gottschalk, and Manet represent the late stages of romanticism in the middle of the nineteenth century; Ravel, who is sometimes described as an impressionist composer but more accurately identified as a symbolist, was deeply influenced by the work of Degas, Monet, and Renoir; and the paintings of Bellows, Léger, Matisse, Modigliani, and Picasso find echoes in the music of the iconoclast Milhaud and the modernist Piston. George Gershwin was personally acquainted with Chester Dale and was inspired by Dale's collection to collect art himself. Although Gershwin did not have much time to do so (he died at age 39), he did collect significant works by Thomas Hart Benton and other American painters who were breaking new ground in the 1930s.

Program notes by Stephen Ackert, head, music department, National Gallery of Art

For the convenience of concertgoers the Garden Café remains open until 6:00 pm.

The use of cameras or recording equipment during the performance is not allowed. Please be sure that cell phones, pagers, and other electronic devices are turned off.

Please note that late entry or reentry of the West Building after 6:30 pm is not permitted.

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COVER: Paul Cézanne, *The Artist's Son, Paul*, 1885–1890, National Gallery of Art, Washington, Chester Dale Collection